GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:472
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2001
SALE OF PDS SUGAR TO INCOME-TAX PAYEES
CHINTAMAN NAVSHA WANAGA;RAMPAL SINGH

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether sale of sugar through public distribution system to non-income tax payees who are above poverty line will be discontinued during current year;

(b) if so, the effective date choosen to implement this decision with reasons therefor;

(c) the date when sale of sugar through public distribution system to income tax payees was discontinued;

(d) whether the Government propose to sell more commodities through public distribution system during current calendar year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (S SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a), (b) & (c): Government has decided to restructure the Public Distribution System (PDS) inso far as supply of levy sugar is concerned. Income Tax assesses and their dependents were made ineligible for drawal of sugar under the PDS with effect from July, 2000. With effect from 1.2.2001, the supply of levy sugar under the PDS has been restricted to BPL populationonly excepting North-Eastern States/Hill States/Island territories, where the existingarrangements will continue. However, minimum per capita per month quantum of levy sugar has been increased from 425 gms to 500 gms, which would benefit the BPL families

(d) & (e): The Government has launched the `Sarvapriya`scheme in July 2000, through NCCF of India Ltd.The scheme envisages distribution of 11 essential items like pulses, salt, tea, toilet soap, detergent cake, exercise notebooks, mustered oil and toothpaste through the PDS outlets, retail units of Civil Supplies Corporations and Consumer Cooperatives with the objective of making available quality consumer goods at affordable prices, supplement the PDS to make fair price shops more viable and also to contain inflation.